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# ANIMAL-LIBERATION ACTIVISTS ARE ARRESTED AS SQUATTERS

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MERCER ISLAND Three men and a woman believed to have connections to "animal liberation" movements were arrested after Mercer Island police found them living in an abandoned home.

Detective Sgt. Alan Lacey said the four apparently had been living in the house, owned by the state Department of Transportation, for several months. The house at West Mercer Way and Southeast 24th Street, was purchased by the agency and condemned during widening and reconstruction of Interstate 90. In addition to suspected stolen property, police said they found various animal-liberation documents, including a book, brochures and stickers. One sticker stated, "Warning. This package contains the decomposing corpse of a small, tortured bird." Also found in one backpack was a book on how to manufacture explosive devices, Lacey said. Some of those arrested are known to local police and have been suspects in vandalism at fast-food restaurants on the island attributed to the Animal Liberation Front, Lacey said. The two Mercer Island men, ages 18 and 20, the 18-year-old Snohomish man and the 27-year-old Snohomish woman were booked into the King County Jail for investigation of criminal trespass and later released.

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